

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
International application No.
PCT/DE2004/001598

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step, or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1 Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP 1304251 A

2 Document D1 discloses a cruise controller having a stop-and-go function for motor vehicles, comprising a control element for activating the cruise controller, and an activation lock (implied) which prevents activation when the brake pedal is depressed. The activation lock is ineffective when predefined conditions - including the condition that the speed is not greater than a specific activation speed (Claim 1) - are met (paragraph 0010).

Document D1 therefore discloses all the features in Claim 1.

In addition, the object would not be inventive in light of the teaching presented in paragraph 0010 in document D1, since selecting the speed as one of the conditions does not add a surprising effect and is therefore absolutely obvious to those skilled in the art, particularly since it is completely customary to link it to speed.

2.1 Dependent Claims 2 through 6 do not contain any features that - in combination with the features of any other Claim to which they refer - meet the requirements of the

PCT in terms of novelty or inventive step. The reasons for this are as follows:

The features of independent Claims 2 through 6 are obvious and generally known variants or circumstances in which the controller is activated or deactivated.